

Cambridge Mass
Oct. 24, 1887

My dear Wadman

Thank you exceedingly
for the copy of your new edition, which I
did not expect & certainly did not earn.
Now I will give my copy of the other
edition to the "Annex" library & so extend the
circle of your readers.

I think you have
reason to take great satisfaction in those
two books. They are solidly & thoroughly
done & have that monumental character
after which an author longs & long;
something that cannot be slipped or ignored,
even a hundred years hence, for they are
an essential part of our literary history.

In regard to the other
formidably magnum opus, I thank you
for what you say. I send two photographs

neither being good. The little one (which was
used by Mrs. Bolton in her recent book of
dreams) is thought by my friends to be the
best I ever had. It is from a larger
picture of myself & little son on a bicycle,
to be seen ~~at~~ in Packer's window, Broadway.
I have thought of trying that same attitude
without the cap & if so it might suit you.
The other ^{larger} picture which I wish ask you to
return if not used, is considered rather sleepy.

As to the selections, I have
described favorite passages which have been
used by Underwood, Duyckinck & others &
I should prefer new ones. What I should
like best, I think, would be that you should
print my "Monarch of Dreams" with omissions
to be marked by myself, reducing it
from 2000 words to about 1000; & add
a chapter of my "Women & Men" ^{about 1100 words} from
reprinted from Harpers Bazar — perhaps

the "Vacations for Vacants" wh. I read at the
Authors' Reading in Boston & which has often
been asked for. I'll send it to you in
sheets if you like (this paper) & if you turn
the other project will cut down the "Monarch"
for you, or try if it can be done. That is
rather my favorite child, I think, partly
because it is the only thing I ever had
rejected by a magazine (Vanderbilt in the Atlantic)
& yet it has been more praised & many
than anything I ever did - including very cool
critics such as Lowell & Norton.

As to verse I have written
a little that there is no great trouble. The
sonnet you like, with an earlier one called
"The Baby Sorceress", about my little girl playing
with colored ribbons, and my other sonnet
verses called "Decoration" sound & very well;
or the Sonnet on "H. H." published in Century.

or the "Reed Immortal" written
for the Papyrus Club.

Ever cordially

T. W. Higginson

P.S. May I give some suggestions as to selections from
Ellegy Chaucer's remarkable & unequal poems?